

!!! PLEASE NOTE !!!

Instructions for completing the 2008 National Teacher of the Year Application form:

- T Please provide **all** information requested in the application form.
- T Signatures of the candidate, the candidate's principal, the candidate's district superintendent (chief school administrator), **and** the State Teacher of the Year Coordinator must be provided.
- T Please limit your answers to the number of pages requested in each section – ***type size no smaller than 10 point***. In order to provide all applicants with an equal opportunity **only the number of pages requested will be accepted.** *Any additional pages and/or materials submitted, such as decorative binders and classroom photographs/art, will NOT be presented to the National Selection Committee.*
- T Each application must include **one photograph** suitable for publicity purposes (5" X 7" color, head shot preferred).
- T Your application packet **must include** a 15 minute video of you teaching in your classroom.
- T **Section I** (pages 1-2) **must be submitted on the form provided.** Sections II-VIII may be produced using your word processing system but please adhere to the format established in the application. **Number the sections and the pages.** However it is accomplished, what should result is a clean, clear copy suitable for easy duplication and placement in a three-ring binder with the other state applications.
- T The entire application package, **accompanied by a signed cover letter from the Chief State School Officer** specifying that the applicant is the State's official candidate for 2008 National Teacher of the Year, must be submitted by the State Teacher of the Year Coordinator.

In order to be considered for the 2008 South Dakota Teacher of the Year award, the application package must **arrive** at the following address **NO LATER THAN the close of business on Tuesday, July 3, 2007.**

Department of Education
South Dakota Teacher of the Year Program
Attn: Lanette Johnston
700 Governors Drive
Pierre, SD 57501

(STATE)

(State)

2008 NATIONAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR APPLICATION FORM

I. General Information/Signatures

Nominee Name _____

Home Address _____

City State Zip Code Telephone ()

Social Security # - - Date of Birth / /

Electronic Mail Address(es) _____

School Name _____

School Address _____

City State Zip Code Telephone ()
School Profile (check one): ~ Urban ~ Suburban ~ Rural

Number of Students in Nominee's: District _____ Building _____

Major Subject Area (if any) _____ Grade Level _____

Total Years of Teaching Experience _____ Years in Present Position _____

I hereby give my permission that any or all of the attached materials (other than home address, telephone, SS# and DOB) may be shared with persons interested in promoting the National Teacher of the Year Program. I also acknowledge that if selected as the 2008 National Teacher of the Year, I will be released from classroom responsibilities during the year of my recognition in order to fulfill the obligations inherent in the honor.

Signature of Candidate _____ Date _____

(Section I. continued - General Information/Signatures)

SCHOOL/BUILDING PRINCIPAL

Name _____ Title _____

School Name _____

School Address _____

City State Zip Code Telephone

I acknowledge that the nominee submits this application with my approval. If the nominee is selected as the 2008 National Teacher of the Year, he or she will be released from classroom responsibilities during the year of recognition.

Signature of School Principal _____ Date _____

SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

Name _____ Title _____

District Name/Address _____

City State Zip Code Telephone

I acknowledge that the nominee submits this application with my approval. If the nominee is selected as the 2008 National Teacher of the Year he or she will be released from classroom responsibilities during the year of recognition.

Signature of District Superintendent _____ Date _____

STATE TEACHER OF THE YEAR PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Name Lanette Johnston Title Program Coordinator

Agency Department of Education

Address 700 Governors Drive

Pierre SD 57501 (605) 773-8415
City State Zip Code Telephone

Coordinator Signature _____ Date _____

II. Educational History and Professional Development Activities - (two double-spaced pages)

- A. Beginning with most recent, list colleges and universities attended including postgraduate studies. Indicate degrees earned and dates of attendance.
- B. Beginning with most recent, list teaching employment history indicating time period, grade level and subject area.
- C. Beginning with most recent, list professional association memberships including information regarding offices held and other relevant activities.
- D. Beginning with most recent, list staff development leadership activity and leadership activity in the training of future teachers.
- E. Beginning with the most recent, list awards and other recognition of your teaching.

(Section II. continued - Educational History and Professional Development Activities)

III. Professional Biography - (two double-spaced pages)

- A. What were the factors that influenced you to become a teacher?
Describe what you consider to be your greatest contributions and accomplishments in education.

(Section III. continued - Professional Biography)

IV. Community Involvement - (one double-spaced page)

- A. Describe your commitment to your community through service-oriented activities such as volunteer work, civic responsibilities and other group activities.

V. Philosophy of Teaching - (two double-spaced pages)

- A. Describe your personal feelings and beliefs about teaching, including your own ideas of what makes you an outstanding teacher. Describe the rewards you find in teaching.
- B. How are your beliefs about teaching demonstrated in your personal teaching style?

(Section V. continued - Philosophy of Teaching)

VI. Education Issues and Trends - (two double-spaced pages)

- A. What do you consider to be the major public education issues today?
Address **one** in depth, outlining possible causes, effects and resolutions.

(Section VI. continued - Education Issues and Trends)

VII. The Teaching Profession - (two double-spaced pages)

- A. What do you do to strengthen and improve the teaching profession?
- B. What is and/or what should be the basis for accountability in the teaching profession?

(Section VII. continued - The Teaching Profession)

VIII. National Teacher of the Year - (one double-spaced page)

- A. As the 2008 National Teacher of the Year, you would serve as a spokesperson and representative for the entire teaching profession. What would be your message? What would you communicate to your profession and to the general public?

IX. Letters of Support - (limit of three letters, each a MAXIMUM of ONE PAGE)

Include **three** letters of support from any of the following: superintendent, principal, administrator, colleague, student/former student, parent, or civic leader.

X. Publicity Photograph

Include with the application package one photograph suitable for publicity purposes. A five inch by seven inch head shot in color is preferred.